

the culminating year of the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Korean War; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 15

At the request of Mr. GREGG, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 15, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the payment of compensation for certain individuals with injuries resulting from the administration of smallpox countermeasures, to provide protections and countermeasures against chemical, radiological, or nuclear agents that may be used in a terrorist attack against the United States, and to improve immunization rates by increasing the distribution of vaccines and improving and clarifying the vaccine injury compensation program.

S. 138

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) were added as cosponsors of S. 138, a bill to temporarily increase the Federal medical assistance percentage for the medicaid program.

S. 140

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 140, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to extend loan forgiveness for certain loans to Head Start teachers.

S. 202

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 202, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow as a deduction in determining adjusted gross income that deduction for expenses in connection with services as a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States, to allow employers a credit against income tax with respect to employees who participate in the military reserve components, and to allow a comparable credit for participating reserve component self-employed individuals, and for other purposes.

S. 215

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 215, a bill to authorize funding assistance for the States for the discharge of homeland security activities by the National Guard.

S. 300

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. CAMPBELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 300, a bill to award a congressional gold medal to Jackie Robinson (posthumously), in recognition of his many contributions to the Nation, and to express the sense of Congress that there should be a national day in recognition of Jackie Robinson.

S. 349

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 349, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 363

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 363, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide that the reductions in social security benefits which are required in the case of spouses and surviving spouses who are also receiving certain Government pensions shall be equal to the amount by which two-thirds of the total amount of the combined monthly benefit (before reduction) and monthly pension exceeds \$1,200, adjusted for inflation.

S. 371

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 371, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to ensure an adequate supply vaccines.

S. 380

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 380, a bill to amend chapter 83 of title 5, United States Code, to reform the funding of benefits under the Civil Service Retirement System for employees of the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes.

S. 437

At the request of Mr. KYL, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 437, a bill to provide for adjustments to the Central Arizona Project in Arizona, to authorize the Gila River Indian Community water rights settlement, to reauthorize and amend the Southern Arizona Water Rights Settlement Act of 1982, and for other purposes.

S. 448

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 448, a bill to leave no child behind.

S. 451

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 451, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to increase the minimum Survivor Benefit Plan basic annuity for surviving spouses age 62 and older, to provide for a one-year open season under that plan, and for other purposes.

S. 464

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 464, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify and expand the credit for electricity produced from renewable resources and waste products, and for other purposes.

S. 480

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 480, a bill to provide competitive grants for training court reporters and closed captioners to meet requirements for realtime writers under the Telecommunications Act of 1996, and for other purposes.

S. 511

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 511, a bill to provide permanent funding for the Payment In Lieu of Taxes program, and for other purposes.

S. 530

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 530, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to create a presumption that a disability or death of a Federal employee in fire protection activities caused by any of certain diseases is the result of the performance of such employee's duty.

S. 560

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 560, a bill to impose tariff-rate quotas on certain casein and milk protein concentrates.

S. 569

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 569, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the medicare outpatient rehabilitation therapy caps.

S. 582

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 582, a bill to authorize the Department of Energy to develop and implement an accelerated research and development program for advanced clean coal technologies for use in coal-based electricity generating facilities and to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide financial incentives to encourage the retrofitting, repowering, or replacement of coal-based electricity generating facilities to protect the environment and improve efficiency and encourage the early commercial application of advanced clean coal technologies, so as to allow coal to help meet the growing need of the United States for the generation of reliable and affordable electricity.

S. 623

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) and the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) were added as cosponsors of S. 623, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow Federal civilian and military retirees to pay health insurance premiums on a pretax basis and to allow a deduction for TRICARE supplemental premiums.

S. 640

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 640, a bill to amend subchapter III of chapter 83 and chapter 84 of title 5, United States Code, to include Federal prosecutors within the definition of a law enforcement officer, and for other purposes.

S. 650

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the names of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. FRIST) were added as cosponsors of S. 650, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to authorize the Food and Drug Administration to require certain research into drugs used in pediatric patients.

S.J. RES. 4

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. THOMAS), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID), and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 4, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States.

S. CON. RES. 8

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. CAMPBELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 8, a concurrent resolution designating the second week in May each year as "National Visiting Nurse Association Week."

S. RES. 44

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 44, a resolution designating the week beginning February 2, 2003, as "National School Counseling Week."

S. RES. 52

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 52, a resolution recognizing the social problem of child abuse and neglect, and supporting efforts to enhance public awareness of the problem.

S. RES. 58

At the request of Mr. ALLEN, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. MILLER) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 58, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the President should designate the week beginning June 1, 2003, as "National Citizen Soldier Week."

S. RES. 62

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 62, a resolution calling upon the Organization of American States (OAS) Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, the United Nations

High Commissioner for Human Rights, the European Union, and human rights activists throughout the world to take certain actions in regard to the human rights situation in Cuba.

AMENDMENT NO. 272

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 272 proposed to S. Con. Res. 23, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Governments for fiscal year 2004 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2003 and for fiscal years 2005 through 2013.

AMENDMENT NO. 274

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 274 proposed to S. Con. Res. 23, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2003 and for fiscal years 2005 through 2013.

AMENDMENT NO. 274

At the request of Mr. HOLLINGS, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 274 proposed to S. Con. Res. 23, *supra*.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS—Tuesday, March 18, 2003

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 647. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for Department of Defense funding of continuation of health benefits plan coverage for certain Reserves called or ordered to active duty and their dependents, and for other purposes.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, today I am introducing a bill to close an unfortunate loophole in health insurance coverage for families of reserve and guard members who are called up for active duty.

As we face the likelihood of war with Iraq, one hundred and fifty thousand members of the National Guard and the Reserves have been mobilized for service. These soldiers, sailors, marines, and airmen are standing by their country in a time of national emergency. But unless the Congress takes immediate action, too many of the spouses and children of these brave men and women may find the quality of their health care reduced.

Today's military relies more heavily than ever before on the reserve and guard. Currently, over 150,000 National Guard and reserve soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen have been mobilized. They are spending an average of thirteen times longer on active duty today than compared to a decade ago.

Our men and women in uniform are working and training hard for the serious challenges before them. They are living in the desert, enduring harsh

conditions, and contemplating the horrors of the approaching war. At the same time, they must put their lives on hold, dealing with family crises by phone and email. We must do our best to take care of those they have left at home.

During the Vietnam War, only 20 percent of all Army personnel were married. Today over 50 percent of the active military are married. These numbers are even higher in the guard and reserves. This service places heavy strain on the families who are left behind to worry and cope with the sudden new demands of running a household alone.

For the guard and reservists' families, a recall to active duty brings new bureaucratic challenges. Employers are not required to keep paying the health insurance for reservists while they are deployed. Many guardsmen and reservists may not be able to afford to pay for health care for their families while they are away.

If a guardsman or reservist is activated for more than thirty days, their family is eligible to enroll in the TRICARE program. However, during that first month, the family may not have any health insurance. In addition, if their family doctor does not participate in TRICARE, the family must find a new doctor while coping with all the other demands of the service member's absence. A family with a sick child and a father or mother sent off to war should not have to cope with the added burden of giving up the family doctor they trust.

The bill I am introducing will assure continuity of health insurance coverage for families of reservists and National Guard personnel called to active duty. Under this bill, these families retain the option of private health insurance coverage during the period of active duty, rather than enrolling in TRICARE.

The bill amends the COBRA coverage rules to specify that loss of employment-based coverage due to active-duty allows them to use the COBRA mechanism to retain their health care coverage. The Federal Government will pay the cost of premiums not covered by employers. This assistance will relieve some of the financial burden on families when the service member leaves a more lucrative private sector job to serve in the military. The Federal Government will also pay the cost of continuing family coverage purchased in the individual insurance market, for those who do not have employment-based coverage.

The cost of this modest additional help for the families of our servicemen will be small, since spouses and children who continue to use their private insurance policies will not be using TRICARE medical services that would otherwise be the government's responsibility.

This bill will not change the health care coverage for service members who will continue to receive health care